

# THE PRESS.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

## THE GRAVE OF A CHILD.

These things, peculiar as they are, are from the pen of Mr. McGregor.

Lowly, shining head,  
That lay thee down,  
With the lowly head,  
Drooping golden crown.

Meekly, marble palms,  
Fold across the breast,  
The white arms, and the  
Of unbroken rest.

Softly, starry eyes,  
Well-purged and spheres,  
Mourning to rise  
In sunbeams or tears!

Not vainly, crescent lips,  
Full of thy dewy rose,  
To the wan smile of Heaven,  
Of this pale repose!

Stem, royal shells!  
No more dying, even  
Through your spiral coils,  
Woe's path to Heaven.

Still, slender feet,  
With the shining sweet  
Of her silver slippers,  
On this little bed.

Holy child of God,  
Spread the glory mild,  
Overneath the sod,  
On this little bed.

Years-No Barrier to Knowledge or  
Fame.

Socrates, at an extreme age, learned to play on musical instruments. This would look ridiculous for some of the rich old men in our city, especially if they should take it into their heads to thrum a guitar under a lady's window, which Socrates did not do, but only learned to play upon some instrument of his time—not a guitar—for the purpose of resisting the wear and tear of old age.

Cato, at eighty years of age, thought proper to learn the Greek language. Many of our young men, at thirty and forty, have forgotten even the alphabet of a language, the knowledge of which was necessary to enter college; and which was made a daily exercise through college. A fine comment upon their love of letters, truly.

Plutarch, when between seventy and eighty, commenced the study of Latin. Many of our young lawyers not thirty years of age think that nisi prius, scire scire, are English expressions, and if you tell them that a knowledge of Latin would make them appear a little more respectable in their profession, they will reply that they are too old to think of learning Latin.

Boccaccio was thirty-five years of age when he commenced his studies in politics literature. Yet he became one of the three great masters of the Tuscan dialect, Dante and Petrarch being the other two. There are many among us ten years younger than Boccaccio, who are dying of ennui, and regret that they were not educated to a taste of literature; but now they are too old.

Sir Henry Spelman neglected the sciences in his youth, but commenced the study of them when he was between fifty and sixty years of age. After this time he became a most learned antiquarian lawyer. Our young men begin to think of laying their seniors on the shelf when they have reached sixty years of age. How different the present estimate put upon experience from that which characterized a certain period of the Grecian Republic, when a man was not allowed to open his mouth in caucuses or political meetings, who was under forty years of age.

Colbert, the famous French minister, at sixty years of age returned to his Latin and law studies. How many of our college-bred men have ever looked into their classics since their graduation? Ludovic, at the great age of one hundred and fifteen, wrote the memoirs of his own times. A single exertion, noticed by Voltaire, was himself one of the most remarkable instances of the age in new studies.

Ogilby, the translator of Homer and Virgil, was unacquainted with Latin and Greek till he was past fifty. Franklin did not fully commence his philosophical pursuits till he had reached his fiftieth year. How many among us of thirty, forty and fifty, who read nothing but newspapers, for the want of a taste for natural philosophy? But they are too old to learn.

Accorsio, a great lawyer, being asked why he began the study of law so late, answered that indeed he began it late, but he should, therefore, master it the sooner. This agrees with our theory, that healthy old age gives a man the power of accomplishing a difficult study in much less time than would be necessary to one of half his years.

Dryden, in his sixty-eighth year, commenced the translation of the Iliad; and his most pleasing productions were written in his old age. We could go on and cite thousand of examples of men who commenced a new study and struck out into an entirely new pursuit, either for livelihood or amusement, at an advanced age. But every one familiar with the biography of distinguished men will recollect individual cases enough to convince him that none but the sick and indolent will ever say, I am too old study!

### Inkings.

—Men do not get intoxicated now-days—they become enthused.

—How to avoid drowning—always keep your head above water.

—A brown study—how to color your meerschaum.

—The great tribulation—Helper's Impending Crisis.

—Who beat the first game of Pharaoh? Moses.

—Love is a morning stream whose memory gilds the day.

—The poor generally have as many "nirs" as the rich, but of a different kind.

—It is the best proof of the virtues of a family circle to see a happy freeloader.

—To speak harshly to a person of sensibility, is like striking a harpist with your hand.

—There is a man in Oxford who lives so fast that he is now absolutely older than his father.

—Why is a man poking a wood-fire like a rum-seller? Because he stirs the brand-he-punches.

—If it was to heaven be narrow, it is not long; and if the gate be bright, it opens into endless life.

—Somebody says that physicians are the nut-crackers used by angels to get our souls out of the shell that surrounds them.

—With a brush-wood; judgment is timber—the first makes the brightest flame, but the other gives the most lasting heat.

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Door and Gate-Springs,

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SILVER-PLATED DOOR-PLATES,

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applied to the center of the plates; consequently

it is possible of its springing from the great

amount of pressure. The motion is so transmitted

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the form, insuring a PERFECT IMPRESSION at

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